

APPENDIX A

MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS (filed February 12, 2002) U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 09/025,143

1. (Twice Amended) A computer system for retrieving object interface [definition] information comprising one or more software objects encoded in computer readable form, said one or more objects having at least one interface defined in a first notation, said one or more objects encapsulating object interface [definition] information specified in a second notation without translating the object interface [definition] information specified in the second notation into the first notation, said second notation being different from said first notation.

7. (Twice Amended) A method for accessing object interface [definition] information stored in one or more software objects residing in computer memory, comprising the steps of invoking said one or more objects by means of at least one interface specified in a first notation, said one or more object returning in response to said invocation object interface [definition] information specified in a second notation without translating the object definition specified in the second notation into the first notation.

11. (Twice Amended) A computer readable medium comprising digital data, said digital data further comprising one or more computer programs [system] for storing object [definition] interface information comprising a parser for object [definition] interface information, an object factory for instantiating objects encapsulating said object [definition] interface information, said objects having pre-defined interfaces without translating the object definition information.

17. (Amended) A computer readable medium comprising digital data, said digital data further comprising one or more software objects comprising [an] at least one interface defined in a first notation for manipulating an object having an interface at least partially defined in a second notation without translating the at least partial definition from the second notation into the first notation, said second notation being different from said first notation.